A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61M5/152 A61M A61M5/168 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 A61M Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° 1-5,7,20X US 2 979 055 A (DE BEER EDWIN J ET AL) 11 April 1961 (1961-04-11) 6 Y column 2, lines 11-50; figure 1 1-5,7,20X US 3 252 623 A (CORBIN THOMAS H ET AL) 24 May 1966 (1966-05-24) Υ column 2, line 59 - column 3, line 10; figure 1 Y US 2002/045856 A1 (JAAFAR ALI ET AL) 6 18 April 2002 (2002-04-18) abstract 1,2,8-15 X EP 0 947 208 A (AUBEX CORP) 6 October 1999 (1999-10-06) paragraphs '0020! - '0029!; figures 1,2 16 3-7, Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. ° Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to Involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or . other means *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 1.0. 01. 2005 20 December 2004 Authorized Officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Ceccarelli, D

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